

FINAL

To Katrina
1/12

DRAFT CITATION FOR AWARD OF MERIT

PAUL BALASSONE

Paul Balassone is a civil engineer with 24 years of experience in the water industry. He commenced with the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, predecessor to Melbourne Water, in 1987 and transitioned to his current role as Heritage Services Coordinator in 2008.

Melbourne Water manages Melbourne's water supply catchments, removes and treats most of Melbourne's sewage and manages waterways throughout the Melbourne area.

Paul has championed Melbourne Water's recent approach to heritage management and has led the development of Melbourne Water's inaugural Cultural Heritage Strategy, produced a number of conservation management plans including the Yan Yean Water Supply System, the Western Sewage Treatment Plant and the Maroondah Water Supply System. Through this work he has formed strong relationships with government departments and community groups. Paul continues to build a culture of awareness and understanding of heritage management in the business and has shaped joint activities with other organisations. Furthermore, he provides guidelines and support to front-line staff in decision making on heritage matters.

Paul's strong relationships with key heritage agencies including Heritage Victoria and Aboriginal Affairs Victoria, key community groups, historical societies and Deakin University have resulted in unique collaborations and effective projects that promote the preservation of heritage sites. Paul holds a seat on the Deakin University Course Advisory Committee for Cultural Heritage Studies.

Paul has contributed strongly with the community in celebrations and historical recognition projects within Melbourne Water.

When the 50th Anniversary Celebrations of the Upper Yarra Dam were held in 2009 Paul contributed to this event by arranging the publication of an historical account by Shirley Tunaley who grew up in the company construction town while her father worked on the dam. Also at the former historic workers township of Cocoroc, located near Melbourne Water's Western Treatment Plant, Paul engaged with local interest groups in the restoration of remnant buildings and structures to interpret the site. Paul managed the project and contributed significantly to the conservation of a heritage listed cast-iron water tank, which now forms a key part of the interpretive complex.

Katrina advises sent to
Division about 1/2/2011

Miles advised.

8/2/2011